

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics, ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 52 6573 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, OCTOBER 1976
MAIN FEATURES

In October 1976 there were 206 industrial disputes involving 56,400 employees and resulting in a loss of 182,500 working days.

The main disputes during the month involved —

- Newspaper employees in New South Wales.
- Tobacco workers in Victoria.
- Iron ore miners in Western Australia.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of October 1976 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly bulletin *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6). The quarterly bulletins also include statistics for earlier periods.

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1.

3. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments, but having a common cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual figures. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Number (a) ('000)	Average days per worker involved (b)	
1971	..	2,404	..	1,326.5	3,068.6	2.3	45,241.3
1972	..	2,298	..	1,113.8	2,010.3	1.8	32,074.4
1973	..	2,538	..	803.0	2,634.7	3.3	45,206.5
1974	..	2,809	..	2,004.8	6,292.5	3.1	128,301.8
1975	..	2,432	..	1,398.0	3,509.9	2.5	95,760.7
1975 —							
October	212	238	98.3	115.6	206.1	1.8	5,477.3
November	153	182	312.7	322.3	270.1	0.8	7,289.5
December	86	103	11.5	15.2	39.7	2.6	1,090.6
1976 —							
January	122	122	16.8	16.8	71.2	4.2	2,096.0
February	234	261	64.6	69.7	192.7	2.8	5,624.8
March	236	272	63.3	71.3	242.6	3.4	6,866.7
April	151	184	52.2	61.5	165.7	2.7	5,314.9
May	182	211	83.7	91.2	128.6	1.4	3,886.9
June (c)	164	187	398.5	400.9	573.0	1.4	16,763.2
July (c)	142	168	1,293.3	1,625.0	1,673.4	1.0	48,664.1
August	178	203	64.8	73.0	203.9	2.8	6,677.4
September	189	222	49.7	63.0	143.4	2.3	4,713.3
October (d)	174	206	45.2	56.4	182.5	3.2	6,265.6

(a) Refers to all disputes operative and workers involved in the period — see paragraph 4, above. (b) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures — see paragraph 4, above. (c) Includes Medibank stoppages. (d) Subject to revision.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (b)

Period	Manufacturing				Transport and storage; communication			Other industries (d)	All industries		
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment (c)	Other	Construction	Stevedoring services	Other				
	Coal	Other									
1971	251.6	83.2	636.7	317.7	1,109.5	73.9	300.1	295.9	3,068.6		
1972	60.8	62.0	620.2	393.7	407.8	39.2	205.2	221.3	2,010.3		
1973	87.5	155.3	800.8	661.4	439.3	49.5	93.2	347.6	2,634.7		
1974	163.0	146.5	2,850.8	756.7	1,188.7	111.1	516.2	559.4	6,292.5		
1975	343.3	90.0	1,279.2	464.1	497.0	46.2	146.7	643.5	3,509.9		
1975 —											
October	2.2	4.9	83.5	44.9	16.9	6.3	11.9	35.5	206.1		
November	3.0	9.1	75.1	62.1	33.6	10.8	30.8	45.5	270.1		
December	1.5	2.1	9.8	20.5	1.7	1.4	2.0	0.7	39.7		
1976 —											
January	0.9	20.3	5.6	29.9	10.3	0.1	1.4	2.5	71.2		
February	13.1	19.8	45.8	55.7	28.3	4.2	3.3	22.6	192.7		
March	10.7	6.8	36.5	54.8	32.2	0.5	18.5	82.7	242.6		
April	6.0	37.1	32.5	11.4	25.6	1.2	8.2	43.8	165.7		
May	3.6	13.7	13.6	13.7	17.5	3.1	50.7	12.7	128.6		
June (e)	10.1	17.3	128.6	88.5	87.7	5.5	102.2	133.1	573.0		
July (e)	30.6	30.4	366.5	355.3	223.9	14.0	183.2	469.6	1,673.4		
August	54.6	4.0	64.3	33.3	19.6	2.6	6.3	19.5	203.9		
September	10.6	26.6	27.2	36.6	28.6	2.1	4.6	7.2	143.4		
October (f)	7.0	16.6	23.5	88.8	29.8	0.7	2.6	13.5	182.5		

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification — see paragraph 2, page 1. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) ASIC sub-divisions 29, 31, 32, 33. (d) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L. (e) Includes Medibank stoppages. (f) Subject to revision.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)
1971	1,887.5	689.6	271.4	111.2	69.4	20.6	3,068.6
1972	866.8	638.4	292.2	60.9	94.6	19.2	2,010.3
1973	1,098.1	780.5	320.2	130.6	117.3	140.1	2,634.7
1974	2,665.0	2,386.6	529.5	316.5	256.9	88.5	6,292.5
1975	1,477.8	1,221.7	473.3	127.6	100.7	40.6	3,509.9
1975 —							
October	67.7	75.2	35.6	16.9	7.1	2.7	206.1
November	37.5	152.8	54.8	7.6	14.1	1.4	270.1
December	13.8	18.2	2.3	1.7	2.7	1.0	39.7
1976 —							
January	14.8	20.5	5.3	0.8	22.0	7.8	71.2
February	107.7	31.3	16.2	4.1	24.0	8.7	192.7
March	93.4	110.5	14.5	11.5	9.1	0.6	242.6
April	54.4	42.1	18.9	7.6	39.2	1.5	165.7
May	44.4	35.4	18.7	6.6	15.6	4.4	128.6
June (c)	91.4	443.9	20.2	4.6	11.5	0.5	573.0
July (c)	729.4	525.6	236.7	93.9	48.8	25.0	1,673.4
August	95.9	72.9	12.3	8.7	6.8	7.1	203.9
September	32.1	38.9	33.0	3.6	29.3	5.3	143.4
October (d)	76.5	52.5	28.0	5.8	15.7	..	182.5

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Medibank stoppages. (d) Subject to revision.

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